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Dated: July 16, 2008    Signature: /Christina M. Sperry/  
(Christina M. Sperry, Reg. No. 47,106)

Docket No.: 101896-705  
(DEP5125USNP)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
Shawn D. Stad et al.

Application No.: 10/616,506

Confirmation No.: 1774

Filed: July 8, 2003

Art Unit: 3733

For: ATTACHMENT MECHANISM FOR SURGICAL  
INSTRUMENT

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Examiner: M. J. Araj

**RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This paper is in response to the Office Action dated April 18, 2008.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.